

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-17 (Cancelled)

18. (NEW) A device for treating a disease of a heart, the device comprising:
a jacket adapted to be secured to said heart and adapted to be adjusted on said heart to snugly conform to an external geometry of said heart to constrain circumferential expansion of said heart during diastole and permit substantially unimpeded contraction of said heart during systole,

wherein said jacket is constructed from interlocking strands, wherein said strands exhibit differential stretch in response to forces from different directions.

19. (NEW) The device of claim 18, wherein said strands have diagonal axes that define a diamond-shaped open cell.

20. (NEW) The device of claim 19, wherein said strands have longitudinal axes.

21. (NEW) The device of claim 20, wherein said strands exhibit differential stretch in response to forces parallel to the diagonal axes versus forces parallel to the longitudinal axes.

22. (NEW) The device according to claim 18, wherein said jacket is configured to constrain at least a lower portion of the heart.

23. (NEW) The device according to claim 18, wherein said jacket circumferentially surrounds said heart.

24. (NEW) The device according to claim 18, wherein said strands are coated.

25. (NEW) The device according to claim 18, wherein said strands are formed of a plurality of fibers.